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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 7 April 1952

SUBJECT DDR Plans To Speed up Production of Heavy Equipment  
for Increased Processed Steel Production

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1. Following a conference of department chiefs held by Fritz Selbmann, DDR Minister of Smelting and Mining (Huettenwesen und Erzbergbau) on 7 December 1951, at which representatives of the Zentrales Konstruktionsbuero (ZKB) der metallurgischen Industrie VEB, Berlin, also were present, it was learned that the Investment Plans for 1952 and 1953 are to be speeded up as much as possible in order to achieve an increased output of processed steel. Emphasis is to be placed on heavy equipment, which is to be ready sooner than was first envisaged in the general Five Year Plan.

The production of the following heavy equipment is therefore to be speeded up:

For VEB Stahl-und Walzwerk Brandenburg -- one 1,050 and one 850 rolling mill, to be made by Maschinenfabrik Krupp-Gruson\* (SAG AMO), Magdeburg-Buckau.

One continuous rolling mill, based on constructional plans from the Skoda works, Pilsen, CSR; manufacturer not yet known.\*\*

For VEB Stahl- und Walzwerk Riesa -- one tube-making plant based on USSR constructional plans and one 800 rolling mill, both to be built by ABUS.\*\*

2. It was learned that:

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VEB Stahl-und Walzwerk Groeditz will get a solid-wheel rolling mill (Vollraederwalzwerk), to be produced in the DDR, based on plans provided by the USSR. Korn, fnu, of the department Forschung und Technik of the former Ministry for Heavy Industry, was to collect these plans at Stalingrad in the near future.

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Eisenhuettenkombinat Ost (EKO) at Fuerstenburg/Oder will be provided at an earlier date with the rolling mill originally planned for 1953/54, probably to be produced by ABUS.

3. Minister Selbmann, when asked where crude steel and funds were to come from, replied that additional crude steel was to be supplied by the USSR, and funds for the increased investments due to the speeding up of the program were to come from the "Aufbau fuer Berlin".\*\*\* Selbmann also indicated that, considering the steps taken by capitalist countries, it was only reasonable for the DDR to do its share for its Russian friends.

\* Comment: Name changed to Ernst Thaelmann Werke as of May 1951.

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Comment: the new drive for the "Aufbau fuer Berlin" involves voluntary contribution of 3 per cent of salaries or wages, as well as voluntary shifts.

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